

Stephen W. Buckingham  
Assistant Chief Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Legal Affairs - Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
P.O. Box 33427, St. Paul, MN 55133-3427  
Telephone: 651-733-3379  
Facsimile: 651-736-3833

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 12 2005

**3M**

**Fax**

**To:** Examiner Sam Rimell  
USPTO

**From:** Stephen W. Buckingham

**Fax:** 703-872-9306

**Pages:** (including cover) 7

**Re:** U.S. Serial No. 09/302,336  
3M Docket No. 54839US002

**Date:** January 12, 2005

☐ Urgent    ☐ For Review    ☐ Please Comment    ☐ Please Reply    ☐ Please Recycle

• **Comments:**

Per our telephone conversation today, enclosed is a copy of a Request for Continued Examination send to the USPTO on November 30, 2004. Thank you for your assistance.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS LEGALLY PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED SOLELY FOR THE USE OF THE PERSONS OR ENTITIES NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT SUCH PERSONS OR ENTITIES, DO NOT READ THE MESSAGE BELOW. ANY DISTRIBUTION, DISSEMINATION OR REPRODUCTION OF THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS MESSAGE IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY CALL US COLLECT AT 651/733-1523.

*misary 5 pages*

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 12 2005

Docket No.: 54839US002

32692

Customer Number

## Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DUE DATE(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
ATTORNEY CHB  
DOCKETED 820

First Named Inventor: Averill, Richard F.

Application No.: 09/302336

Group Art Unit: 2166

Filed: April 29, 1999

Examiner: S. Rimell

Title: METHOD OF GROUPING AND ANALYZING CLINICAL RISKS, AND SYSTEM THEREFOR

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

## 1. Submission required under 37 CFR § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR § 1.116 previously filed on  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/Supplemental IDS
- iv. ☐ Other

2. ☐ A Request for Extension of Time is being filed concurrently

## 3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees or credit any overpayments to:  
Deposit Account No. 13-3723. A duplicate copy of this letter for fees processing is enclosed.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Other

Respectfully submitted,

November 30, 2004

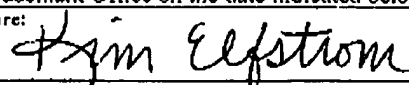
Date

By: 

Stephen W. Buckingham, Reg. No.: 30,035

Telephone No.: (651) 737-2356

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: (651) 736-3833

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission	
I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below:	
Sent to Facsimile No.:	Signature: 
Date: November 30, 2004	Printed Name: Kim Elfstrom

POSTED

DEC 07 2004